

LIFE OF MONTY

JUNE 21, 1987 20 PAGES

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SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY BRITISH TOUR SPECIAL

Has it been seven years already? Then again, has it been only seven years? For that matter, how many of you can claim to have received every issue? (Dick Martin, for one, but I'm not sure about any others.) Only 158 more weeks until the tenth anniversary, which will probably be overlooked since there are approximately 135 weeks until issue 100.

But enough about the past and the future. Presently, you're reading issue 73 of LIFE OF MONTY, brought to you by Don Del Grande, 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae, CA 94904-1339, phone (415) 461-2692. I know all of you have been waiting longer than usual, so let's get right to the main event:

SUMMER 1987: A SFO-LON

Actually, it's LHR, which is the code for Heathrow. I won't bore you with the hassles I had with my travel agent, or the uneventful, 10-hour, non-stop flight, although I will mention that the London part began with the baggage carousel breaking down and my bags taking forever to come out.

Anyway, LONDON - after a bus ride to a spot about 1/4-mile (there are no "city blocks" in London; the roads are built around the buildings, not the other way around) from my hotel, I eventually made it to my \$40-a-night single room, measuring about 10 feet by 25, including the furniture and toilet. At least it had color TV, complete with free movies - Roller Boogie and The Goodbye Girl.

Fortunately for me, I was going to be in town for the national elections. Unfortunately, that included the "Party Election Broadcasts"

XENOGOGIC

on television. There are three major parties (actually, four): the Conservatives, which are currently in office, led by Margaret Thatcher, the Labour (labor) party, and the "Alliance" (a combination of the Social Democratic Party (SDP) and Liberal Party). The first two try to "get a majority" (see next paragraph), while the Alliance tries to prevent either of the other parties from doing it. Each night, one of the three gets to show a five-minute film on television. (Also, the Green Party, which is a "naturalist" movement strong in other parts of Europe - Scott Hanson knows more about it than I do - has a Party Election Broadcast, but it was more of a general description since they knew they couldn't get any "real voice" in Parliament.)

Here is a quick description of how the election works: the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is divided into about 650 areas of roughly equal population, and each one has its own MP (Member of Parliament - specifically, the House of Commons). The party with a majority of the MPs can "form the government" - that is, the cabinet posts are filled by their party, and their leader is Prime Minister. At any time within five years of the last national election, the Prime Minister can ask the Queen (or King, as the case may be) for permission to call for an election on a specific date (not that the Queen would turn the Prime Minister down, but only Her Majesty can dissolve Parliament); in this case, the Queen gave permission. On election day, each of the seats is up for election in the appropriate area. Even Margaret Thatcher's seat is up for grabs, although she won quite easily. When all of the seats are filled, the party with a majority can form the government. If no party gets a majority, it is a "hung Parliament" (as had happened in 1974); the party previously in control would remain there for the moment, but if Parliament started to have a number of votes go against the government, the Prime Minister would probably ask for another election. (One note: if any of the individual elections ends in a tie, there is no re-vote; the winner is determined randomly from among the tied finishers.)

Anyway, back to the vacation. My hotel is right near the Underground (subway), but the station requires either waiting for the elevators or going down 175 steps to get to the trains. On my first day, I go see "Nelson in Hiding" - Nelson's Column, including the statue, is covered with tarpaulins and scaffolding. On my way, I pass by "Non-Stop for Nelson Mandela". It seems that, about a year ago, a group of protestors had a sit-down in front of the South African Embassy. Eventually, they were forced to move - to a church across the street, where they remain to this day. (Berkeley would be proud.)

Just my luck - it rained *every day*. But that wasn't my fault. Who was the wise guy that scheduled a cricket "test match" (a five-day match between national teams) at Old Trafford (known for its

rain) just before Wimbledon Fortnight (not known for sunny skies)? To make things worse, my umbrella broke.

One good thing about London: the theater seats are lower than in New York. The most expensive seats for *Starlight Express* were \$31; for *CATS*, \$35. (I had a row 14 seat for *CATS*.)

Strange sight in Westminster Abbey: the Chapel of St. George for Private Prayer had a sign saying, "This month we are asked to pray for God's guidance over the General Election". Since everybody knows that God is Conservative (i.e. right-wing) (well, everybody except Reverend Jesse Jackson), the fix was in.

Another strange sight: it is no longer possible to walk down Downing Street, which is closed at both ends. (It is only one block long.) This is for two reasons: the official one is because of terrorism, while I figure that Mrs Thatcher was not 100 percent sure of her being returned to power . . .

You fans of *The Benny Hill Show* will be pleased to note that Fred Scuttle (one of Benny's characters - the one who salutes with spread fingers and smiles a lot) is probably the only statue that appears twice at Madame Tussaud's - once when entering through the "Pass Entrance" and again with the celebrities, where you can get a picture with him (dressed as a tour guide) for about \$5. Speaking of Madame Tussaud's, the usual Royal Family layout was replaced with a Prince Andrew's Wedding scene. Also in the room were some of the current foreign leaders (for example, Reagan, Nakasone, Kohl, Mitterand, Hawke (Australia), and even Craxi (former leader of Italy) - but where was Brian Mulroney?), plus Mrs Thatcher and the leaders of the other major parties.

Shopping for a new umbrella took me to Swaine Adeney Brigg, complete with Royal Warrants (*By Appointment to Her Majesty Elizabeth the Queen Mother, Makers of Umbrellas* - also Whip and Glove makers to HM the Queen), on The Piccadilly near Bond Street. (Bond Street is Fifth Avenue and Rodeo Drive put together - that is, add the prices together.) I asked for a simple nylon umbrella. The price tag was 72 pounds (about \$115). I walked out. Eventually, I got a collapsing umbrella for \$16 somewhere.

WARNING! If you order a milk shake, note that it is usually nothing more than milk and flavoring put under a mixer. Ask if it contains ice cream!

I did manage to visit all of the typical tourist spots, except for Buckingham Palace. Also, I went to one of the newer ones, the Cabinet War Rooms, where Winston Churchill conducted business during the Blitz of 1940 and the V-1 and V-2 attacks near the end of the war.

During my second week, I planned to spend a few days outside

of London. My plans to visit Edinburgh were scotched (?) by the rain, and both Penzance and Portmarion were too out-of-the-way to visit properly in one day. Still, I managed to see Greenwich, where I did what very few people would even think about - I set my watch to the Royal Observatory time signal. (Those of you with shortwave radios that can hear the BBC World Service: It's the same beeping signal heard every hour.) Part of the National Maritime Museum was closed so that they could finish "ARMADA 1588". Still, the main walkway is lined with 24 and 32-pound guns, and the *Cutty Sark* was open, for you WS&M types.

The next day, on to Windsor, where it never stopped raining. Unfortunately, the Queen was in residence, so the state apartments were closed. After that, trips to Canterbury (Chaucer didn't have British Rail) and Dover (although I couldn't see France across the Channel).

Of course, London wouldn't be the same without shopping . . . I went to the BBC Shop at Bush House (home of the World Service), where I got the *Yes, Minister* books. Also, they have books, cassettes, and video tapes from a number of shows and events, although the tapes can't be used in North America because of the different TV standards.

After the umbrella business, I went to a nearby hat store "in business for sixty years". What do you MEAN, you don't have my size? How hard can it be to get a hat in size 8 1/4?

The big stop was Harrod's, which claims to have everything. The service was bad - it took forever to get someone to notice me - but the goods are fine. I managed to get a pewter chalice (more of a grail) for about \$75, which will be used as the permanent trophy for the annual IDTR World Championship. (Sort of like the World Cup, you could say.)

SECOND WARNING! Gasoline sells for \$2.70 A GALLON.

I couldn't believe that half of the TV comedies on the major stations (there is no "non-network" programming) are repeats from 1983-1985! Also, at the end of a program, you might hear a message that one of the stars "is currently appearing in (whatever show he or she is in) at (the appropriate theater)".

Eventually, election time came, with varying polls claiming widely different majorities for the Conservatives, but none even close to the final total of 102, about 20 less than before the election. Even the exit polls predicted about 50. And LOM reader Pete Doubleday wasn't involved in the running in Oxford West & Abingdon like in 1983, where he got 86 votes out of 49,000, probably because each candidate must leave a deposit of \$800 to "stand for Parliament" (run in the election), which is not returned if the candidate does not get five

percent of the vote. Strange - I thought he ran on the "Cerebus the Aardvark" party last time, but both the Times (which didn't mention his name) and the Daily Express (which did) list him as "Independent".

Finally, what visit to London would be complete without dining at the Hard Rock Cafe? (I think the prices are a bit high, though.)

NEWS for WHOS

You *Blake's 7* fans will be pleased to hear that the BBC Shop (Bush House, Strand, London) has the Programme Guide in stock, and it's probably the only place outside of a convention where you can get one.

On June 8, all DOCTOR WHO fans should have celebrated a happy 44th birthday of Colin Baker. (When is Sylvester McCoy's?)

I don't care what it says in (TIME) LORDING IT - I don't have any new DOCTOR WHO news.

Douglas Adams has released his new book, *Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency*, which is mentioned in the Infocom adventure *Bureaucracy* (also by Adams). I managed to get mine autographed, at which time he mentioned that he has recently agreed to do the second adventure in the *Hitchhiker's Guide* series.

Tom Baker is currently starring in the J.B. Priestly play *An Inspector Calls* at the Westminster Theater in London.

Finally, I didn't see any WHO-names in the Queen's Birthday Honors list - not even a posthumous OBE for Patrick Troughton.

LAST-MINUTE EURO-TRIVIA

Did you know that, although the Princess of Wales (Diana) has a painted portrait in the National Portrait Gallery, the Duchess of York (Sarah) only has a photograph?

Forget about fish and chips - London's new food is pizza. In addition to the Pizza Land and Deep Dish Pizza Company chains, there are a number of Pizza Huts in England! (I also saw a Burger King among the McDonalds . . .)

The people were so glad to see me leave, they lined the streets from Buckingham Palace to Horse Guards Park the day before I left. Even the Queen rode in one of the coaches. Well, maybe it was just the Trooping of the Color, but I'll never be convinced.

FINAL WARNING! Once back in America, anything less than a five-pound note can't be converted back to American money!

PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS

THE NATIONAL DEBATE - well, three Republicans and four Democrats showed up, so there was something to talk about. Now, for the rundowns on the candidates, first with **THE DEMOCRATS**:

Iowa Senator **DAVE ANDERSON** announced his intentions near his home in Des Moines. In a prepared statement, he blasted Governor Ellis's policies as "ridiculous" and that the economy is in bad shape and the debt may go to \$2 billion, unless a tax increase is put into effect soon. Who is this would-be President? He started his political career as mayor of Cedar Rapids in 1970, but was picked at the young age of 37 to be Senator two years later. Now in his third term, he is running for the highest office in the land.

Former California Governor **DOUG BROWN** may be forced to withdraw due to lack of funds. Brown said, "I need a job. That's why I want to be President. But I'm currently out of a job and am not sure I can scrape together enough cash to make a viable run at it. I intended to hitchhike to the national convention but I got a ride from a young attractive model and, uh, we sort of got delayed. So I have not announced my stands on anything and have no money to go anywhere. My wife understands the whole model story and says she wants me to continue my quest for the Presidency. She seems to think the White House would be a step up from our current tenement in Oakland." (True story; he's going on sabbatical and may not be able to afford the \$10 for the rules at the moment . . .)

Colorado Governor **JAKE HALVERSTADT** is a graduate of Ohio University, and served two terms in Colorado's State Senate before his two terms as Governor. He is the author of The Fallow Ground, a commentary on America's goals for the turn of the century, and is working on movie deals for his other work, Tango Sierra Baby.

West Virginia Governor **MELINDA ANN HOLLEY** graduated from UWV Law School in 1977, at which time she took a job in the State Attorney General's Office, Fraud Division. In 1980, she became the state's Attorney General, and was elected as West Virginia's first female Governor four years later. She has resided in Cabell County since 1955.

Oregon Congressman MICHAEL HOPCROFT - well, there isn't that much known about him. (Since Michael didn't mention what position his "character" holds, the "default" is a Congressman from his home state.)

And now for a look at THE REPUBLICANS . . .

The Reverend SIMON BILLENNESS from New York is the leader of the First Fundamentalist Church of New York; he's also a prominent televangelist.

Iowa Governor GREG ELLIS graduated from the University of Texas Law School to become a businessman in Iowa. He served 12 years in the State Legislature, gaining a reputation as an able mediator and passing the highest percentage of legislation in recent times. He later became Governor and is serving his second term, concentrating on keeping the budget under control and improving the educational system. There hasn't been a tax increase during his term, and he plans to bring the same management style to the White House, as well as shaping the Federal government "back to what was intended: representing the states in all foreign affairs and providing for a common defense".

Washington Senator CATHY OZOG was born on an apple farm in Waenatchee, but moved to Seattle to attend UW-Seattle, where she graduated with honors in business, and got involved in politics there. She started as a local Representative, gaining respect for business and farm economy stands; the death of a long-time Senator opened the door for her. After four years in the upper house, she feels the time is right for a woman President.

Texas Senator STEPHEN WILCOX started out as a Democratic Senator, but changed sides after losing in his last bid for the White House due to the party's lack of support for choosing a running mate. Party pressure forced him to choose someone whose ideas were too close to his to be able to appeal to a wide variety of interests.

Well, those are the candidates. There are two rules clarifications I would like to make:

First, NMRs - if a candidate NMRs, he/she comes down with some strange disease which make it impossible to travel, so the candidate remains in place for that turn, but cannot get any "travel points". Organizers are still effective, but remain where they were in the previous turn, awaiting orders.

Second, undecided issues - in order for a candidate to receive votes based on a certain issue, he/she must have decided on a stand no later than the turn before the number of votes is decided. For example: SIG advertising takes place in Iowa on turn one, so a candidate making a stand on turn one cannot receive SIG votes in Iowa for that stand, but can receive issue votes in Iowa, which are not advertised until turn two.

TURN ZERO - THE STANDS AT THE NATIONAL DEBATE

ISSUE #	SB	GE	CO	SW	DA	DB	JH	MAH	MH
1	X	+	?	?	+	X	+	+	--
2	X	-	+	++	-	X	-	-	-
3	X	-	+	+	-	X	+	-	-
4	X	?	-	--	++	X	+	--	+
5	X	-	+	?	-	X	+	-	+
6	X	-	?	--	+	X	--	++	++
7	--	-	--	--	+	X	-	+	?
8	X	-	+	--	+	X	--	+	+
9	++	-	-	?	-	X	-	-	--
10	X	++	?	-	-	X	-	+	-
11	X	+	++	-	-	X	?	--	?
12	--	?	++	+	+	X	++	++	+
13	X	++	-	-	+	X	+	+	?
14	X	--	?	++	+	X	?	-	+
15	X	-	?	+	-	X	-	-	+
16	X	+	+	++	+	X	-	+	++
17	X	++	-	++	X	X	+	++	?
18	X	+	+	++	+	X	+	++	-
19	--	-	?	++	+	X	++	+	+
20	X	+	+	?	-	X	--	--	-

	SB	GE	CQ	SW	DA	DB	JH	MAH	MH
Organizers									
IA	50	0	50	0	50	25	38	30	25
NH	0	50	0	50	0	25	12	20	25

In addition to the first 20 issues, Greg Ellis has made additional stands:

21 - - / 22 - - / 23 - - / 24 + / 25 - / 26 ? / 27 + +
 28 - - / 29 - / 30 - / 31 - - / 32 + + / 33 - / 34 -
 35 ? / 36 + + / 37 ? / 38 - - / 39 - / 40 - / 41 + +
 42 + / 43 ? / 44 + + / 45 ? / 46 - - / 47 - - / 48 +
 49 + + / 50 + + / 51 - - / 52 +

TURN 1 ORDERS will consist of the following:

Distribution of organizers among the five eligible states;

Travel orders (only Iowa and New Hampshire; it is assumed that all "turn 0" moves ended outside of both of these states), preferably a list numbered from 1 to 10 with a location next to each number;

SIG Advertising orders (expenditures) for Iowa and New Hampshire;

Any additional stands you wish to make (remember that taking stands earlier than listed is allowed, and can affect SIG ratings in early primaries).

DEADLINE for TURN 1 is WEDNESDAY, JULY 22.

I was planning on printing the current SIG ratings, but I ran late writing this up - the (updated) SIG values should be in the next issues

MEETING OF MINDS

Welcome to another MEETING OF MINDS, the subzine of the INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY TOURNAMENT RATINGS (IDTR) organization. As of this moment, one of the tournaments (DIPCON, in Madison, WI) has been held, although results are not available yet. Also, MARYCON was cancelled, but promises have been made for June of 1988, presumably when there will not be Dipcon competition.

However, the IDTR is always on the lookout for tournaments, and David Hood managed to send me the results of DIXIECON I:

1. Morgan Gurley (NC)	105	2WD, 2WD
2. Rob McCarter (VA)	104	2WD, 2WD
* David Hood (NC)	99	2WD, 2WD
3. Jim Ulaky (NC)	94	2WD, 3WD
4. Jeff Taylor (NC)	84.3	3WD, 3WD
5. John Daly (NC)	83.3	3WD, 3WD
6. T. Daniel Sellers (NC)	56	Win, 5E, 6S
Bill Hunter (NC)	56	3S, 3S, 4S
8. Chris Kremer (NC)	55.5	2WD, 7E
9. David McCrumb (VA)	52	2WD, 7S
10. Chris Klker (NC)	50.5	3S, 4S
11. Gilbert Waldron (NC)	49	2WD, 7E
12. Travis Laster (VA)	44.1	3WD, 4S, 6E
13. Rob Lancaster (VA)	39.6	3S, 4S, 5S
14. Stan Plummer (NC)	34.3	3S, 5S, 6S
15. Mike Pinkerton (NC)	33.6	3S, 5S, 6S
16. John Sabol (VA)	32.6	2S, 5S, 7E
17. Bob O'Dear (NC)	32	4S, 5S
18. Rick Seals (VA)	25.3	5S, 5E, 7S
19. Steve Sabol (VA)	23.3	4S, 6S, 6E
20. Steve Wilcox (NC)	16.5	4S, 7E
21. George Greene (NC)	7.5	6E, 6E, 7E
22. Frank Winstead (NC)	0	7E
Stefan Gotschalk (NC)	0	7E

*David Hood was declared ineligible - by himself, presumably

Names are followed by final score and game results (2WD - 2-way draw, 3S - survived in third, 6E - eliminated in sixth place)

David has requested sanctioning for 1988; however, both Marycon and Atlanticon are in this geographical area and attract bigger, more widespread crowds. If enough interest is expressed for DIXIECON II that it could surpass one of those other tournaments, sanctioning will be considered for 1988.

Now on to IDTR upcoming events:

Two IDTR sanctioned tournaments (well, 1 1/2) will be held within the next five weeks: PEERICON (the first part) in San Diego starting June 20, and ORIGINS in Baltimore starting July 2. Also, MANORCON will be held in Birmingham, England starting July 24.

Meanwhile, further information on MIDCON has been received. MIDCON, the British national tournament, will be held from November 13 to 15 at the Royal Angus Hotel in Birmingham, UK. Registration is 5 pounds sterling and should be sent to:

Brian Williams,
30 Rydding Lane,
Millfields Estate,
West Bromwich,
West Midlands, B71 2HA
U.K.

Room rates are 37 pounds for two people per night, 23 pounds for one person per night.

Now for some real news - the as-of-yet-unnamed-but-suggestions-are-welcome IDTR CHAMPIONSHIP CUP is on display to anyone coming by my house and asking for a look. I'm sorry that I don't have any pictures; however, I can say that it stands 7 3/8 inches high, has a diameter of 4 inches at the top and the base, and is made of pewter by Crown and Rose of England. (Trivia note: it cost me 46 pounds at Harrods)

The cup will be a perpetual trophy, with each year's champion having his or her name engraved. I am working out plans so that the cup can be "presented" to the champion each year to hold for a (very) short time - perhaps at a major tournament, after which it would be sent back.

That ends this MEETING OF MINDS. Remember, suggestions are requested for a name for the IDTR Championship Cup. (There's one already.)

DIPLOMACY -- "CHESS"

The Boardman Number for this game is 1987CF. However, I have decided to go along with the crowd and give my games identifying names. It was a choice between Musicals and British TV Comedies; Musicals won out, as it is easier to choose titles of musicals that correspond to the games involved. (The upcoming Railway Rivals game will be STARLIGHT EXPRESS, for example.)

Why CHESS? Well, the CHESS musical is not as much about pushing 32 pieces over a 64-square board; it's a story of the politics and the emotions behind the game at the world-championship level. Much like DIPLOMACY. Maybe somebody should tell Tim Rice or Andrew Lloyd Webber about the hobby...

SPRING 1901 - JUST A LOT OF FRIENDS

AUSTRIA (Hopcroft): A Bud-SER, A Vie-TRI, F Tri-ALB

ENGLAND (Dorneman): F Edi-NWG, F Lon-NTH, A Lvp-EDI

FRANCE (Holley): A Par-BUR, A MAR S A Par-Bur, F Bre-MID

GERMANY (Kayatl): A Mun-RUH, F Kie-HOL, A Ber-KIE

ITALY (Casey): A Ven-TYO, A Rom-APU, F Nap-ION

**RUSSIA (Slaughter): F Stp(sc)-BOT; A War-GAL; A Mos-SEV;
F Sev-ARM**

TURKEY (Fleischman): A Con-BUL, A Smy-CON, F Ank-BLA

FALL 1901 DEADLINE: JULY 24, 1987

COA: Tom Slaughter, 1545 Northcliff Trace, Roswell, GA 30076

PRESS

GM-AUSTRIA: I don't print press releases from replaced orders unless the later orders tell me to.

PAR-MOS: Sorry Tom, I never could spell. Peace is all I want.
TURK-AUS: Mike, get a real country.

That's all of the press . . .

DIP WAR Z

At last look-

"PLEASE don't use phrases like LAST LOOK, OK?"

If Rod Seaparter, probably soon to be the next EMPEROR if he doesn't kill himself in the third of the THREE TASKS first, asks, we listen. Anyway, in our previous episode, we heard the BOOM RATTLE RATTLE shake CRUNCH of a direct hit of OHIO ACRES (complete with OUT

TO PASTURE) and BLUNT INSTRUMENTS upon the Linoleum Falcon.

"ILOM, damage report!" shouts John Pole-o.

"You don't have to SHOUT!" comments Oboe-1 Caruso.

"Damage report - I've got this pain in my diodes down my left."

"Not YOUR damage - damage to the ship!"

"Well-ex-cuse-ME! Anyway, our hypertronic ultraplasmic thingy has taken considerable damage, and the booze took a direct hit."

"The WHAT?"

"Calm yourself, Pole-O," responds Princess Luscious. "OK, mister soon-to-be-EMPEROR-et-cetera-guy, where's the nearest liquor store in this galaxy?"

"Actually, we're in a 'Dry Universe' - prepare to jump to coordinates -32.7788, +11.9821, -0.2211, plus 1, zero, plus 2. Now, WARP OUT!"

Just then, the Linoleum Falcon found itself moving out of control into a universe which seemed to be folding into itself, with time and space distorted beyond even the comprehension of John Boardman types.

Apparently, the hypertronic ultraplasmic thingy was damaged more than ILOM had let on. Eventually, everything had collapsed into something the size of a grapefruit, and had moved through space to an imported fruit stand on the Leftwing planet in the Berklee star system.

A few minutes later . . . "BURP - those Galactic Grapefruits really lie in your stomach, don't they?"

What now? What happens when time - and other things - passes? We might just find out what that third of the THREE TASKS is next time, too.

KINGMAKER has been delayed because of some confusion over the deadline. It should have been JUNE 18, not MAY 18. So, just to be fair, the turn is delayed.

NEW DEADLINE is JULY 23, 1987. Here are the units in play:

KRIKKIT KONFEDERATION (Miller) has STANLEY, NEVILLE, GREY, and TALBOT in Preston, LE MARGARET in Lynn, and LE CHRISTOPHER in Southampton.

SACRED ORDER OF THE MIRACULOUS PANTY-HOSE (Mazzer) has CROMWELL, COURTENAY, ROOS, (HOLLAND), and MOWBRAY in Preston, LE GEORGE in Preston, and LE TRINITY at Calster. HOWEVER, Holland has been called to the Irish Open Area, and may take either (but not both) of the ships with him.

GRAY KNIGHTS OF LANCASTER (Thornsberry) has BOURCHIER, BEAUFORT, HERBERT, SCROPE, and PLANTAGENET-LANCASTER in Wallingford, STAFFORD in Blackheath, and LE MICHAEL in Milford Haven. NOTE: You must get rid of all of your royal heirs of one of the houses during this turn.

WHITE DUCHESS (Ozog) has HASTINGS, HARLECH, POLE, PERCY, and (BERKELEY) at Preston, and LE ROSE and LE LUCAS at s15. HOWEVER, Berkeley has been called to Berwick.

ROYALS: Henry is dead; Margaret with Plantagenet-Lancaster; Edward Lancaster with Beaufort; Richard York with Bouchier; Edward March with Percy; Edmund with Holland; George with Cromwell; Richard Gloucester is dead.

TIMEWARP DIDN'T MAKE IT IN TIME. IT'S ALL DICK MARTIN'S FAULT, PROBABLY. HE HAD SEVEN DAYS TO GET ME THE RESULTS. ANYWAY, THEY WILL BE MAILED SEPARATELY TO THE PLAYERS, AND WILL APPEAR HERE IN THE NEXT ISSUE.



KINGMAKER - "Me And My Gal". Six players signed up; the game will probably start next issue.

RAILWAY RIVALS - "Starlight Express". Conrad von Metzke has seven players for me; this should also start next issue.

1830 - (no name yet) Two signed up, one thinking about it. Need six to start.

With **ORIGINS** coming up, there are bound to be some new releases that are PBable, not that any of YOU are going to run out and buy them. Meanwhile, the only new thing out right now is **YANKS**, the U.S. supplement for **ADVANCED SQUAD LEADER**. At least there's a list of the future ASL modules:

Module 4 is **PARTISAN**; not much detail about it yet, but it will have boards 10 and 32 (32 is a forest/stream board). Probably include some minor countries actions, plus Soviet partisans in action.

Module 5 is **WEST OF ALAMEIN**, with the British units. As the title suggests, this is a desert module. Boards 25 through 29 are included; 25 is Tunisian hills and wadis, and the others are desert.

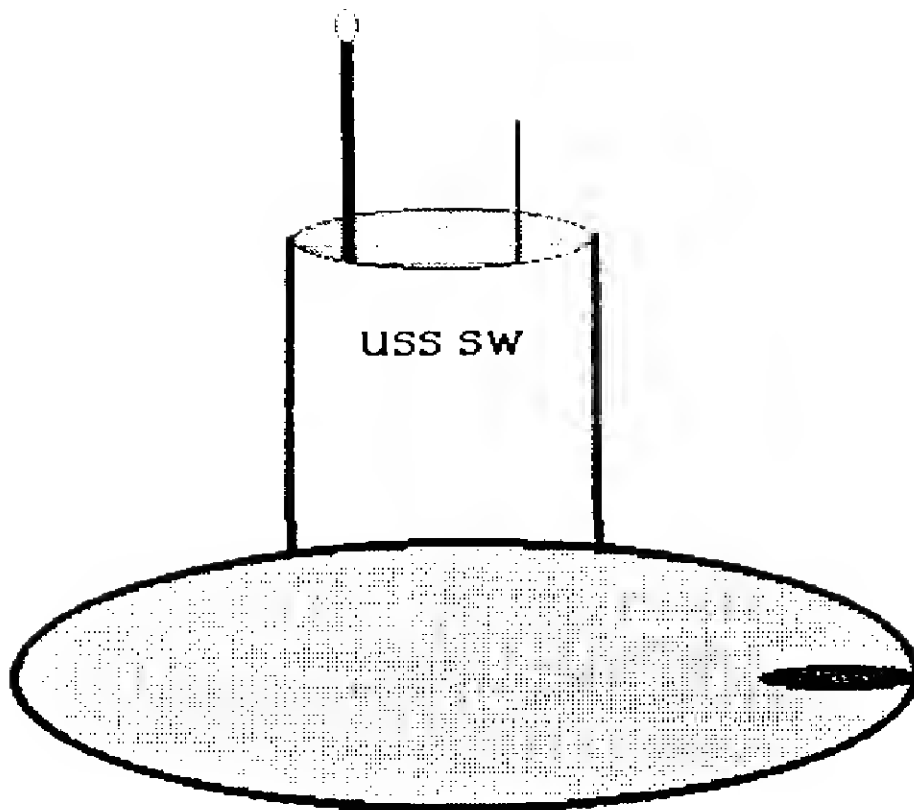
Module 6 is **HOLLOW LEGIONS** - Italians in the desert. More desert boards, numbered 30 and 31. (What is this - **TOBRUK?**)

Module 7 is **CAMPAIGN IN ITALY** - Italians running away from the desert. Board 9, with the level four hills, will be used.

Module 8 is an unnamed module, probably dealing with Normandy as board 11, with the hedgerows, is involved here.

DELUXE ASL module 2 is **HEDGEROW HELL**, with four bocage and miscellaneous terrain boards.

Module 4 is scheduled for release sometime in 1987; 5 and 6 are scheduled for 1988. Keep in mind that the rules were quite late, although the modules have been on time.



SUBMARINE WARFARE

(a neat idea for a subzine)

by

Derwood Bowen
2140 East State Street
Salem, Ohio 44460

Derwood takes to the typer once again in an attempt to entertain the something less than masses that peruse Life of Monte. This time around, nostalgia has struck. I have decided to relive some of the sixties music. Far out, man. This will be an ongoing feature until either I get tired of it, or you get tired of it and let me know.

Michael Hopcroft sent me a new zine offering. I suppose I should be nice and send him a sub. Or at least send him a letter. But, I am going to be lazy, while giving him something of a plug, and do it here. I just added enough game starts to bring me to seven games, plus one gunboat. I figure that is just about enough. I also get quite a few zines already. The bottom line is, someone would have to produce another Costaguana to get me to sub. And I don't need another gamestart. So, Michael, tough luck for me. But, for the rest of you, check out Michael's offering. He is offering some chitchat, and game openings. His address should appear in LOM somewhere in his subzine.

Ohio Acres continues to bubble merrily along. Issue #1 was 8 pages. #2 went up to 12, #3 was 16, and #4 made 20. I can't believe that we can keep this up. So far, though, the readership has made Ohio Acres an interesting little zine. And, if we keep this progression up, it won't stay little very much longer. There are also game openings for regular dip (either dias or non-dias, your choice) and an opening in a blind variant called Stab I. Yes, this is a shameless plug for the joint effort by Bob Greier and myself. Write to Bob at 35171 Gromley Rd., Salem, Oh 44460. Or you can write to me. But do get in on this little marvel.

My mailbag does not overfloweth. I actually get a fair amount of mail. Being in seven games and receiving more zines than that means I get mail virtually every day. But SW itself prompts almost no mail. I doubt I have gotten more than half a dozen letters from SW in it's entire history. So, people, if any of you can find it in yourselves, can you send a letter this way commenting on SW in some fashion.

Ah, well. Enough of this. Let's get into something a bit more entertaining. At least, I hope it is a bit more entertaining.

A black and white illustration of a butterfly. The left wing features a wavy, horizontal line pattern with several dark, circular spots. The right wing has a checkered or diamond-shaped pattern with a few dark spots. The butterfly has a simple body and two antennae.

The Iron Butterfly. If ever a name brings back the Sixties to me, that is it. One of my most prized memories is sitting in a front row seat (a rare occurrence in itself) on my 21st birthday listening to the Iron Butterfly. These guys had one of the most popular songs of the time.

The song itself was something of a ground breaker. It took up all of side 2 of the album (The album was called "In-a-gadda-da-vida," naturally.) and was 17 minutes long. It featured several long instrumental solos, including a drum solo. This was real new stuff. No one was doing this kind of thing. No self-respecting top 40 AM radio station would play it. They did make a 45 out of the song by cutting out all the instrumental stuff. What a joke! Fortunately, underground radio was coming into being. The FM dial didn't worry about stuff like 3 minute time limits.

The Iron Butterfly did do other songs, and other albums. But they never had another success even close to the Big One. They did get a track in the movie "Easy Rider." And, the songs "Iron Butterfly Theme," "Soldier in Our Town," and "Easy Rider" did achieve some popularity. Two of the band members got back together and made two albums under the name of Iron Butterfly. They were called "Sun and Steel" and "Scorching Beauty." Both of those albums are actually decent, but very obscure. I guess the band was very much a beast of its time. Other albums they did are "Heavy" (their first), "Ball," and "Metamorphosis." They also made a live album (didn't everyone?). The Iron Butterfly. Once in a while, a station doing a sixties type show will dig out the album and play "In-a-gadda-da-vida." Very much a part of the times.

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Some things do not bear up well under too close scrutiny. The Superman TV show is one. Of course, the guys who made it probably weren't expecting me to do this.

So, let's say you are going to rob a bank. So you get the gang together. You know, Buggy, Mugsy, Cottontail and Peter. So someone says, "So which bank we going to hit, Boss?" (Tired of all the so's yet?) So you say, "Metropolis First National Bank." If that isn't absurd, what is? Banks in Metropolis get special insurance rates. They call it the Superman clause. The security guards in Metropolis banks don't even carry guns.

So, anyhow, you are in Metropolis First National. You point your gun at the teller and demand the loot. The teller has a hard time giving it to you, as she is laughing too hard. Then you get a look at the security guard, and he is laughing at you, too. So you kick him in the balls. That'll teach him some respect.

Anyhow, you book out of the bank. All of a sudden, this guy falls out of the sky in front of you wearing blue jammies. Ooops. If it was me, I'd try to lie my way out of this one. "Uh, Hi, Superman. The bag of money. Uh, I, uh, made a withdrawal from my bank account to pay for my sick mothers operation. Yeah, that's the ticket. The gun. Uh, that's because there are some criminals around here, and I was worried about carrying all this money. Now that you're here, I won't need this. Thanks for coming."

Of course, it didn't happen that way. The guy turns and shoots six shots into Superman's chest, and watches them bounce off. If it was me, I'd have at least aimed a little lower. Find out if the "Man of Steel" has balls of steel. Anyway, after shooting Superman six times to no effect, I'd try groveling. But not the criminal in this show. He takes the gun and throws it at Superman. Like that is going to do some good. But, did you ever notice that Superman ducks when he throws the gun?! That almost makes sense.

As an aside, think about this. The planet Krypton blows up some zillion miles from Earth. Who knows what the odds are of any of that rock striking Earth. Certainly not very likely. Yet, there seems to be all kinds of Kryptonite running around on Earth. How unlucky can a poor Superman be!

Until next time, keep "running silent, running deep."

(TIME) LORDING IT...



A SUBZINE BY MICHAEL HOPCROFT
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Welcome once again to the Whoish part of our programmes. This is the Whoish subzine, (TIME) LORDING IT, brought to you whenever the editor bloody well feels like it by the Michael Grade Disintegration Society. (And spa)

Hopefully the publisher has returned from his journey to England and has managed to pick up some useful pieces of info. I should hope so because it's been a really, REALLY slow month down here! I don't know how much this applies to the rest of the country, but Portland fandom is very depressed. Someshow given the current state of affairs that is not surprising.

A few details are known about Season 24 of DOCTOR WHO, with new Doctor in tow. Rumors to the contrary there will be no regeneration sequence with Colin Baker. He won't do it anyway, and besides he has stage commitments all summer. So it will be Sylvester McCoy emerging from limbo to face--

THE RETURN OF THE RANI!

For those who like their villainesses of the icy persuasion this will be welcome news. Somebody managed to convince Kate O'Mara to put her DYNASTY hiatus to good use, and she will be featured in the first story. Any woman who could give the Master a knes to the groin has my respect. And maybe her enazzy TARDIS will be back too.

No details have yet been released on the rest of the season, other than that they have a new and inexperienced script editor. Bonnie Langford will be companion throughout; earplugs available at the door.

The American convention scene will be somewhat limited this year. Colin Baker will be guest of honor at TimeCon this year in San Jose, along with STAR TREK creator Gene Roddenberry.

HUMOURS AND REPORTS

The principal purpose of this subzine is, of course, to run a DOCTOR WHO RPG campaign.

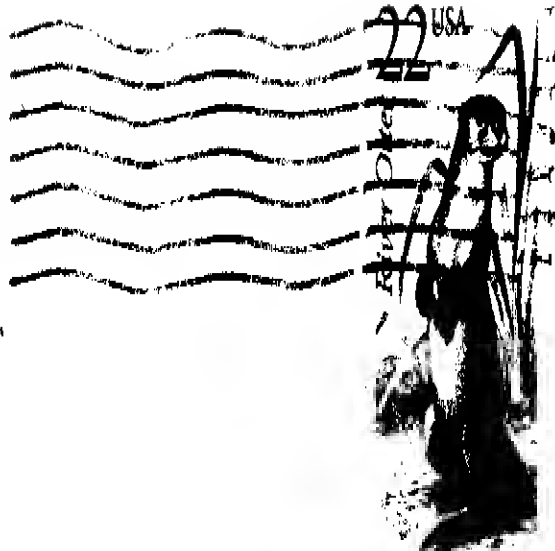
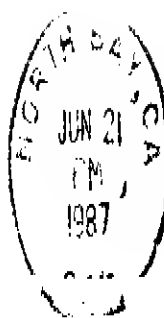
VICTORY! The Toymaker has been defeated by... Professor Rubik? After a few minor adjustments, a cube from the Doctor's TARDIS found its way into the hands of the Toymaker. Thanks to the Doctor's tinkering the cube had been rendered insoluble. And thus the Toymaker's hold was broken. But there are a few unresolved details, like what to do with that Draconian prince they picked up at the casino...

The plan to bully Tegan's captor was working until security guards came by--and arrested the Doctor! It took some friends in high places to iron out that misunderstanding. But while that was going on the kidnapper got away!

People have occasionally been asking me what they need to do to play DOCTOR WHO. So here is a guide to what you want to do to get in.

1. WRITE ME. My address is printed above.
 2. GET A CHARACTER. If there are still openings you will be assigned one of the Doctors and his companions as a working team. You will be making all game decisions for that team, so if they get split up (as inevitably will happen) you still run both groups. You will also get a starting game situation once your characters are chosen.
 - And 3. KEEP WRITING. Yes, keep writing, a brand new style. My lousy typing aside, I try to have a 3-day turnaround with my turns. But that only works when I get turns, so it's really a question of role-playing at your own pace.
- Happy time-hopping 'til next month!

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